

# Educational Materials for Health Professionals

## National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (NMCOHRC)

The [NMCOHRC](#) provides online access to an extensive array of oral health materials. The center collects programmatic materials such as standards, guidelines, curricula and reports, and shares information about their availability. It also develops and disseminates materials such as fact sheets, briefs, resource bulletins, guides, manuals, conference proceedings and curricula in print and electronic formats. It provides links to online continuing education courses and electronic newsletters and maintains information about grants offered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration.

Dental disease is the most prevalent infectious disease among children in the United States. More than 40 percent of children have tooth decay by the time they reach kindergarten.

Because primary care providers are more likely than dentists to see very young, high-risk children, it makes sense to educate and train primary care providers on the risk of early childhood caries and other aspects of oral health.

[\*Oral Health Care During Pregnancy: A National Consensus Statement\*](#) is a new publication from the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (NMCOHRC) that presents a consensus statement from an expert workgroup meeting held by the Health Resources and Services Administration in collaboration with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Dental Association (October 18, 2011, Washington, DC.) The document provides guidance for prenatal and oral health professionals on oral health care for pregnant women, including pharmacological considerations and guidance to share with pregnant women.

The online [Help Me Smile](#) self-study course provides high quality oral health materials for home visitors and professionals providing services to caregivers, pregnant mothers, infants, toddlers, young children and adolescents. The audience for this course includes home visitors and professionals working in the Help Me Grow program, the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps, the Child and Family Health Services program, Early Head Start/Head Start, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the Department of Developmental Disabilities, child care staff members and child care providers. Each learner who participates in the self- study will have access to electronic .pdf files that can be downloaded and/or printed. The training is free for nurses, dietitians and child care providers, and those who provide services to the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled.

[Oral Care Basics for Caregivers](#) is a 21-minute instructional video/DVD and booklet for direct-care providers in group homes, nursing homes or home-care settings and can be purchased for \$6.

## Other Resources

**New!** The American Academy of Pediatrics has launched its new [Children's Oral Health website](#) that provides easy-to-use oral health practice tools, resources, education and training for pediatricians and other health care professionals.

[Smiles for Life](#), developed by the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, is an interactive oral health educational curriculum designed for primary care clinicians. Its seven modules cover the relationship of oral to systemic health, child oral health, adult oral health, dental emergencies, oral health in pregnancy, fluoride varnish and the oral examination. It includes interactive online courses and clinical cases for individual and small group education, downloadable PowerPoint modules suitable for larger group presentations, instructional videos and patient education materials.

A [complete list](#) of other training and resource materials for health professionals interested in oral health risk assessment training can be accessed at the NMCOHRC website.

*Last Updated: 5/21/2014*

*Last Reviewed: 5/21/2014*